



# Romulus News

AUGUST 9, 2002 – AUGUST 22, 2002

"the little paper"

VOLUME 16 NUMBER 2

## Timely Tidbits ...

### Rummage Sale

The Community United Methodist Church of Romulus – located at the corner of Olive and Bibbins in the downtown area – invites the public to attend its Rummage Sale Fund-raiser, which will be held on Friday, August 9, beginning at 9 a.m., and continue on Saturday, August 10 ("Stuff a Bag with Clothes for \$10" Day), beginning at 9 a.m. All proceeds will go to the church building fund.

### Team Finishes 2nd

Recently, the City of Romulus Departments of Parks and Recreation entered a fifth- and sixth-grade boys' basketball team into the Inkster Parks and Recreation Spring Tournament. The Romulus team remained undefeated until the championship round, and ended up taking second place in the tournament.

Each participant received a uniform and a trophy.

Members of the Romulus team were: Cody Barnes, Nick Bennett, DeAndray Buckley, Dominique Buckley, Rashad Glenn, Larry Horne, Elijah Lee, Demetrius Price, and Justin Price.

### Dinner To Aid Turners

A fund-raising drive is being organized by the Romulus Rotary to benefit the family of Ronald Turner, who was killed by a drunk driver while walking on Goddard Road near Metro Airport.

Rotarians Steve Trahey and Kris Moe have formed a committee to raise funds to help Mary Turner and her three children, ages seven, six, and two.

Trahey reports that \$1,000 has been collected through contributions from Romulus Rotarians. The group hopes to raise additional money with a Spaghetti Dinner, to be held at Romulus Progressive Hall on Monday, September 16.

Tax-deductible contributions may also be mailed to the Romulus Rotary Foundation, P.O. Box 485, Romulus, MI 48174.

All questions should be directed to Moe at 734-941-7224. □

## Primary Election Results in Few Surprises

By Kristi Stephens

It's doubtful that many of the 3,461 Romulus residents who voted in the August 6 primary were surprised by the results of the candidate races, since their ballots, by and large, reflected those cast by people throughout the county and the state.

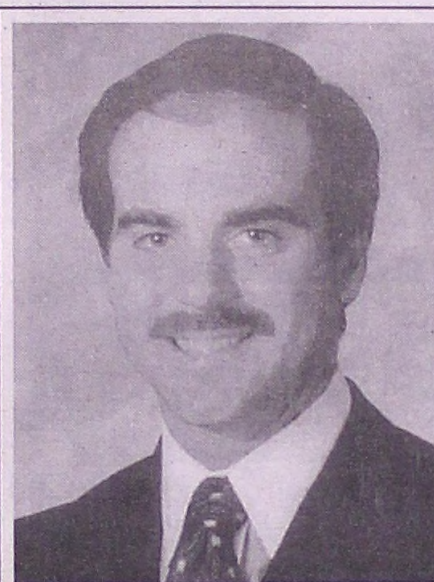
In fact, the only place that Romulus really bucked the trend was in the democratic portion of the gubernatorial race. Statewide, Jennifer Granholm won handily over James Blanchard and David Bonior, getting nearly double the votes garnered by either man. In Romulus, however, it was Bonior who came out on top, earning 1,138 votes to Granholm's 991 and Blanchard's 928.

In the Republican half of the race, Romulus voters were much more of a mind with the rest of the state, supporting Dick Posthumus by a ratio of more than five to one over John Joe Schwarz (241 to 46).

### Other Race Highlights

Like voters elsewhere in the newly redrawn 15th Congressional District, Romulus residents opted for the overwhelmingly greater experience of John Dingell (1,797 Romulus votes) over Lynn Rivers (1,240 votes) in an unusual race between two incumbent Democrats. Dingell will face unchallenged Republican Martin Kaltenbach (203 Romulus votes) this November.

In the battle for State Representative of the 22nd District, term-limited



David A. Glaab

Raymond Basham successfully passed the Democratic party's torch to his current assistant, Hoon-Yung Hopgood, who was the decided favorite among the group of five challengers. In Romulus, Hopgood earned 1,140 votes compared to Patricia Lentz (563), Jacklyn Molner (394), Chris Dolson (383), and Donald Zub (221). Hopgood will face unchallenged Republican Ronald Vaughan (197 Romulus votes) in the fall.

And in the race to fill the seat of retiring 34th District Court Judge William Szlinis, candidate David Glaab (endorsed by Judges Tina Brooks Green and Brian A. Oakley) got the largest return in both Romulus (966) and the



David M. Parrott

district (3,455). Stephen Trahey did well in Romulus (placing second, with 892 votes), but his overall total of 1,762 was not enough to pass David Parrott (who gleaned 627 votes in Romulus; 1,849 altogether) for the second spot on November's ballot. Jeffrey Jahr received 146 Romulus votes (1,547 overall), while George Chedraue drew 51 (232 total).

### Proposals? YES!

Finally, as of our press time, it appeared that both state proposals and all three county proposals had passed overall. Approval of the County measures will levy more money for jails, special education, and the SMART transportation system. □

## Mark Your Calendars for St. Aloysius Festival

Alas, the end of summer is near, but Romulus-area residents can finish it off with a bang by attending the 52nd annual St. Aloysius Festival.

Everyone is invited to take part in this "local institution," which will be held at St. Aloysius Catholic Church on Friday, August 23, from 6 p.m. to midnight; Saturday, August 24, from 1 p.m. to midnight; and Sunday, August 25, from 1 to 9 p.m. (See the advertisement on page 9 for directions to the festival site.)

Highlights include:

### Dunk Tank

This year's dunk tank will give community residents a chance to tell local politicians and other prominent citizens, "Go soak your head!" ... then make them do just that! A complete list of those who have good-naturedly agreed to take part

in the fun will be published in the Friday, August 23 edition of "the little paper."

### Las Vegas Games

For many festival-goers, one of the biggest attractions is the Las Vegas tent, where adults (age 18 and older) can try their luck at the game of blackjack. Betting varies from a minimum of \$1 to a maximum of \$5, with a maximum winnings per person per day of \$500. This year, the tent will be open throughout the festival.

### Bingo!

For diehard bingo fans, a festival just isn't a festival without a chance to indulge in their favorite pastime – and, luckily for them, the St. Aloysius Festival will again feature play throughout the entire weekend. Cards for the 50/50 games (half the income collected from

each game is used for prize money) are two for a quarter per game.

### Raffles

Of course, the easiest way to try your luck is to invest in one or two (or three or four or ...) raffle tickets. Ticket-buyers can choose between the 50/50 Hourly Raffle (\$1 tickets; cash prizes of half the money from each hour's sales) or the One-for-\$1/Six-for-\$5 Raffle (three large prizes: \$5,000, \$1,000, and \$500).

Better yet, since the proceeds from all raffles benefit the St. Aloysius General Fund, why not buy plenty of each?

### Carnival Rides

What's a festival without rides? Fortunately, the St. Aloysius Festival will offer enough of them to satisfy your kids' carnival cravings.

*continued on page 9*

## School Board Honors Retiring Members Dick and Berlinn



Retiring Board of Education members Kenneth Berlinn and Debbie Dick show off the special recognition plaques commending their numerous efforts on behalf of Romulus school children.

The Romulus Community Schools Board of Education recently presented retiring Board members Debbie Dick and Kenneth Berlinn with commemorative plaques citing their positive influence on the education of Romulus children.

Both Dick and Berlinn were greeted with much applause and appreciation for their countless hours of dedication to district functions such as concerts, recognition ceremonies, school programs, athletic events, graduations, charity drives, and community programs. Both also served the Board in the offices of president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

Former president Dick was commended for her extensive involvement with the Wick Parent Supporter and the Athletic Booster organizations. She was also on Board committees in the areas of finance, athletic facilities, policy, and cable television, and was an enthusiastic supporter of the district's *Fish!* motivational program. Additionally, she was recognized for her strong advocacy of the district initiatives, district academic achievements, and district-wide band and athletic programs, as well as for her

continual efforts to improve both our athletic facilities and the quality of our athletic teams.

Berlinn was commended for a variety of accomplishments during his 20 years of Board service. He was a long-time member of the Board's finance, personnel, and technology committees. He also represented Romulus on the Wayne County Association of School Boards Executive Committee, the Michigan Association of School Boards' Legislative Relations Network, and as an elected Board member to the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency Board of Education. Berlinn made numerous presentations at regional, statewide, and national education conferences, and distinguished himself and the Romulus school district in the process.

"The Romulus educational community extends its best wishes, sincere thanks, and gratitude to Debbie Dick and Kenneth Berlinn for their contributions to both the Romulus Community Schools and to the children of Romulus," said district spokesperson Dick Kruse. □

### ROOMS TO RENT

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## Knight Is Teacher of the Year



Kellie Knight

The American Legion Education and Scholarship Committee has voted Romulus High School teacher Kellie Knight "Teacher of the Year" for Michigan. She was selected from five finalists for proving excellence based on teacher competence, community involvement,

patriotism, and support of American Legion programs.

Knight received a \$500 grant to be used for an educational project of her choice for Romulus High School students, and was awarded a recognition plaque at the American Legion State Convention, held in Grand Rapids on Friday, June 28.

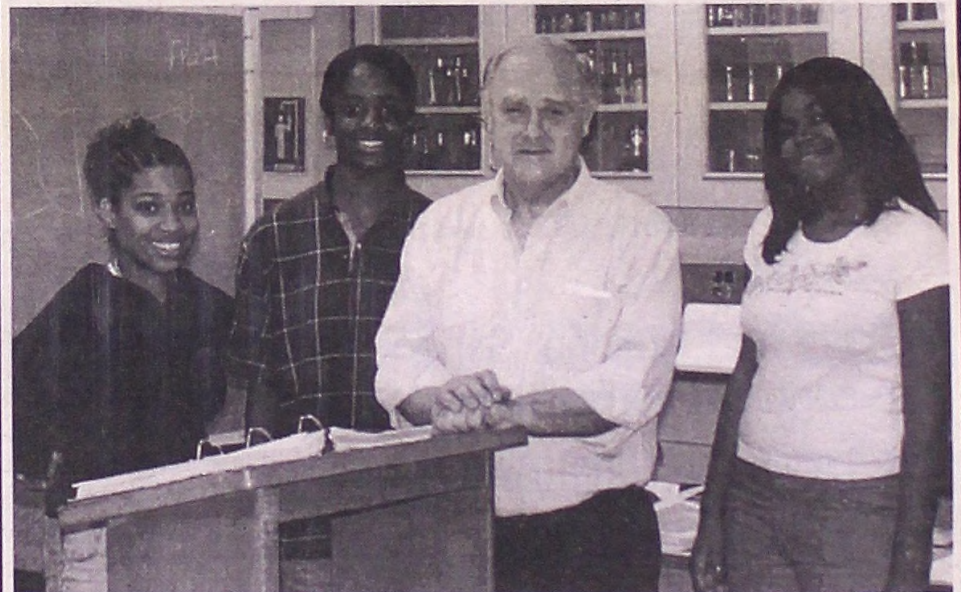
She was also commended by Scholarship Chairman Wilson Coomer for "building a firm foundation for the community and the young people of this great state we live in."

Knight had previously led Romulus High School students to two consecutive state championships in the Marathon event of the State Social Studies Olympiad.

Last year, the RHS students did a project on voting – registering all students to vote in school elections via e-mail – to win first place.

This year, their "Patriotism Service Learning" program was again recognized as state champion in the Marathon category. □

## Students Take Summer Driver's Ed



Instructor Dr. Richard Locke (second from right) taught a summer driver's education program to Romulus High School students like (from left) Danielle Butler, Deborah Anderson, and Kursha Bradford.

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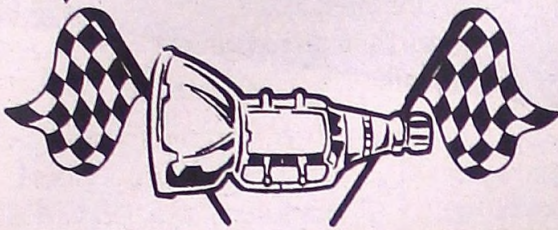
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- Successful robotics team
- First-place winners in Middle School Science and Social Studies Olympiads
- Science Fairs at all schools
- Phone access to all classrooms

**The Romulus Community Schools Board of Education and Staff**

## Siggia Is New Soccer Coach



Angela Siggia

Romulus Community Schools Athletic Director Jesse Meriweather has announced the appointment of Angela Siggia as the new head coach for both the boys' and girls' soccer teams at Romulus High School.

"Angela comes from an extensive competitive soccer background, and we

look forward to good things in the future from our soccer program," Meriweather said.

Siggia, who was recently hired as a science teacher at the High School, is a graduate of Western Michigan University, where she majored in biology. She has compiled an outstanding educational resume in her field, working on a specialized biological project in Belize and acquiring teaching experience at Kalamazoo Millwood Middle School and Romulus High School last fall.

Her competitive soccer experience dates back to club teams in the highly competitive Livonia soccer program. Siggia was an outstanding player at this level, and starred on the Livonia travel team that won three state championships and traveled to regional competitions in Missouri, South Dakota, and Kentucky. She was also an accomplished volleyball player with her Livonia High School team.

Siggia already has some knowledge of the Romulus soccer program, having served as an assistant last year. She is looking forward to working with this year's teams. □

## Football Fans Watch for Iowa, Russell

Romulus football fans can watch for former Eagles star Fred Russell on televised Iowa University football games this fall. Russell, who had an excellent spring practice, is expected to receive plenty of play time at both running back and wide receiver for the Hawkeyes.

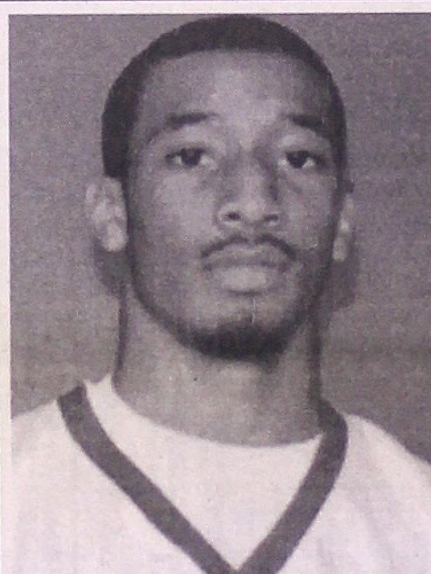
Russell was an All-State first-team selection in 1998, when he led Romulus High School to a 10-1 record. He averaged 10+ yards per carry during that historic season and rushed for more than 350 yards in a 53-35 playoff victory over Sturgis.

He was initially recruited by the University of Michigan, but chose to attend an eastern prep school before signing with Iowa.

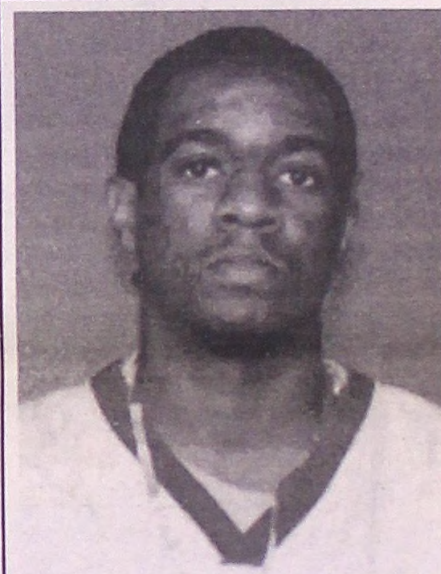
Russell feels that Iowa has a real shot at the Big Ten championship. To support his belief, he cites the fact that the Hawkeyes have a number of returning players – including several big, effective linemen – as well as the leadership of an evenhanded coach.

"You always know where you stand with Coach [Kirk] Ferentz and what he expects of you – no surprises or mind games," he said. □

## EMU's "Romulus Day" Set



Wide receiver Chris Talley, who saw considerable action last year, will start for the EMU Eagles.



Defensive back Michael Woods finished spring practice as one of EMU's starters.

## Cheerleaders Prepare for Fall

Romulus Middle School's cheerleaders have been hard at work to prepare for the upcoming football season. The 13-member squad has been practicing at the Romulus High School atrium three hours daily, four days a week, and recently completed a Universal Cheerleading Association camp, also conducted at the atrium.

UCA cheerleading coach Safia Saleh, a University of Michigan cheerleader from West Bloomfield, commented on the outstanding cooperation among the Romulus girls.

"This was one of the best camps I've done over the past several summers," said Saleh.

Both the head of the district's cheerleading program, Bonnie Carter, and the coach of the RMS cheerleading squad, alumna Renee Ervin, were on hand to help the girls during the three-day/all-day UCA camp.

"We really have a nice group of girls this year," said Ervin, "and I am confident that they will represent our school in a positive manner throughout the football and basketball seasons." □



UCA cheerleading coach Safia Saleh (middle row, right), RMS cheerleading program director Bonnie Carter (back row, right), and RMS coach Renee Ervin (back row, left) conducted a three-day camp for the following RMS cheerleaders (from left): front row – Ryann Norfleet, Alyssia McVay, Brittnee Shreve, and Shakita Wilson; middle row – Rashannda Graham, Sarah Berger, and Tatiana Gray; back row – Patrice Barden, LaRhonda Colvin, Tiffany Penn, Carmen Collie, and Lacey McKinney.

Eastern Michigan University's second annual "Romulus Day" celebration is set for Saturday, September 7. The event – to be held in conjunction with the football game between the EMU Eagles and their arch MAC rival, Toledo – will recognize recent Romulus High School students who received football scholarships to EMU. The honorees include wide receiver Chris Talley and defensive back Michael Woods – both listed to be in EMU's starting lineup this fall – as well as linebacker John Wester, who is also expected to receive considerable playing time during the season.

All current Romulus High School students who would like to attend the "Romulus Day" event will receive free tickets during the first week of school.

Adults can purchase tickets by contacting Antony Bailey of the EMU Sports Marketing Department (734-657-1708). Anyone wearing apparel with a Romulus emblem can purchase tickets for half price (\$5 for adults; \$3 for kids under 12).

Additional incentives include free EMU T-shirts for the first 2,000 people through the gate, a fireworks display after the game, and free parking, as well

as a possible opportunity to see former RHS running back Charles Searcy, who received a scholarship to attend Toledo.

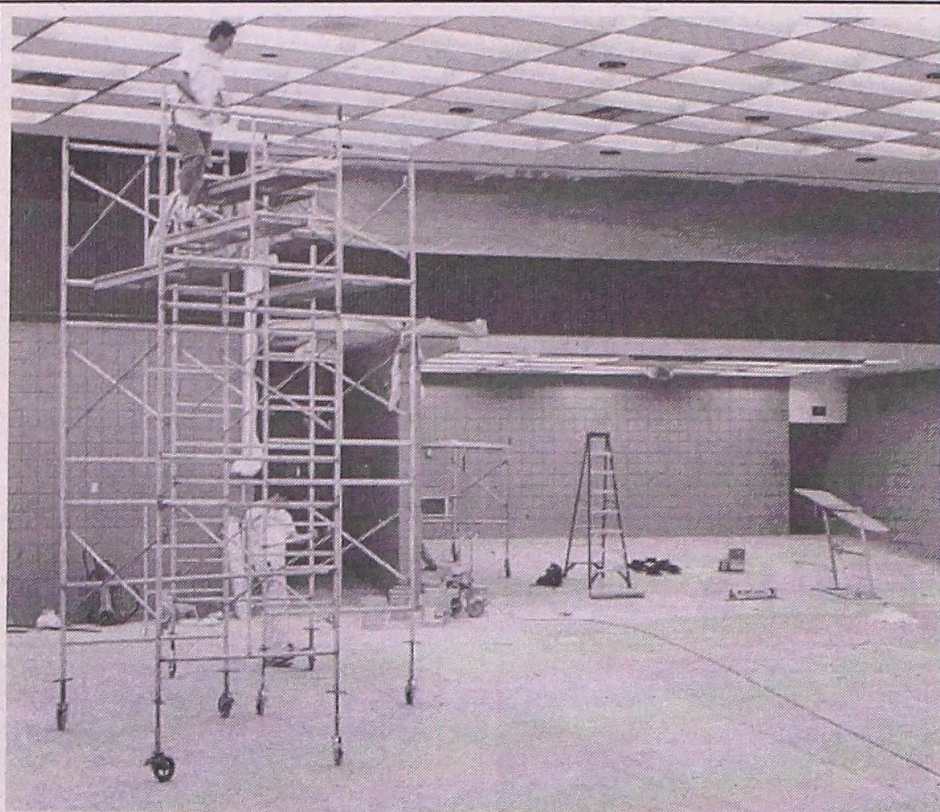
Adults who wish to travel as a group are invited to meet at City Hall to take advantage of bus transportation that will be provided. A 4:30 p.m. pickup will allow ample time to enjoy the atmosphere and get settled in for the 6 p.m. kickoff. A return time of approximately 10 p.m. is expected.

Students who need a ride can fill out and return permission slips to ride a bus that will depart from the High School at 4:30 p.m. and return at about 10 p.m. Students who plan to take advantage of bus transportation *must* ride the High School bus and *must* return to Romulus on the bus.

EMU Coach Jeff Woodruff was very pleased with the large "Romulus Day" attendance last year. In fact, Woodruff indicated that "Romulus Day" was by far the most successful of the university's "community day" events. (Over 1,000 Romulus fans enjoyed an EMU victory over Southeast Missouri State.)

An even bigger crowd is expected this year. □

# RHS Auditorium Receives Extensive Renovation



Construction workers initially took out the old seats and replaced ceiling lights and fixtures.



The newly refurbished Romulus High School auditorium features wider seats and more leg room between rows.

The Romulus High School auditorium received a complete renovation this summer.

Construction workers first took out all the old seating that had been in use for more than 30 years, then began work on the ceiling's light fixtures. Next, they filled in holes left in the floor by the old seating before painting both the floor and the ceiling.

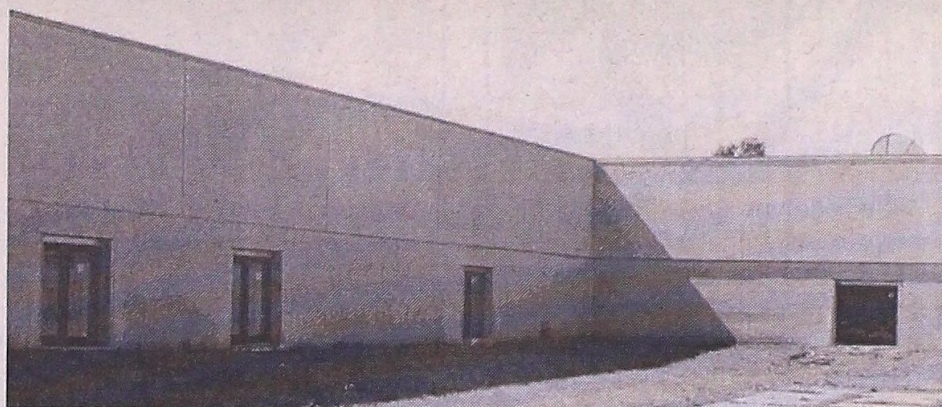
Finally, 700 new deluxe seats, fea-

turing wider seat-bottoms, were spaced to allow greater leg room for users.

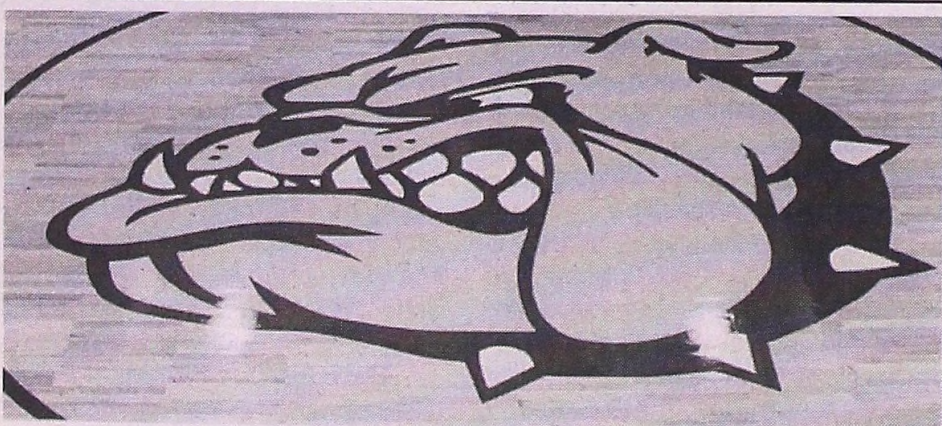
The auditorium stage also received major attention. The ceiling received tile and paint work, the floor was sanded and given a shiny new finish, and the old curtain was replaced.

A new sound system, new lighting system, and new partitioning doors (for the back sections) will be installed in the near future. □

## Other District Improvements



Another of the summer's construction projects was the installation of 16 generously sized windows at Barth, Halecreek, and Wick elementaries. Each of these "sister" schools, built with berms in the '70s, had only a few windows prior to the renovation.



Romulus Middle School's bulldog mascot – recently painted on the gym floor – is impatiently awaiting the arrival of students later this month. Other gymnasium improvements included having the floor refinished, new bleachers installed, and the old folding-door partition removed so that a new drop-curtain device could be installed. Last year, acoustical panels and brighter lights were added to make the gym an excellent area for concerts and assemblies as well as athletic events.



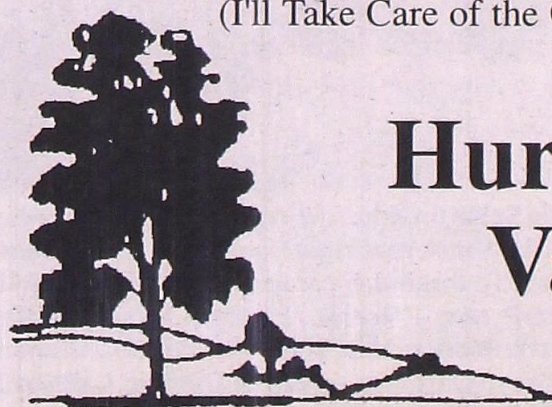
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## Breakfast for RES Parent Volunteers



On the last day of the school year, parent volunteers at the Romulus Elementary School enjoyed a special breakfast before helping with special outdoor activities for students like Thomas Landry (front). The parent volunteers included (from left) Marsha Zavitz, Eric Ewald, Catherine Landry, Delphine Tucker, Kathy Jordan, Shirley Daly, Judy Church, and Teresa Church.

## Students Learn About Nature Firsthand



Summer School teacher Tavia Redmond (back) took her students – including (from left) Jasmine Ellison, Blake Damron, Taque Courtland, Jeane Elam, and Marvin Bonner – out for some nature study.

## Robotics Team Reports to Board



(From left) Student Robert Ditsch, RHS Robotics Team advisor Terry Bird, math teacher Wendy Pachota, alumnus Kevin Longre, and GM Powertrain staff member Kevin Gay recently gave a recap of the team's successful season to the Board of Education. GM donated \$20,000 to the team.

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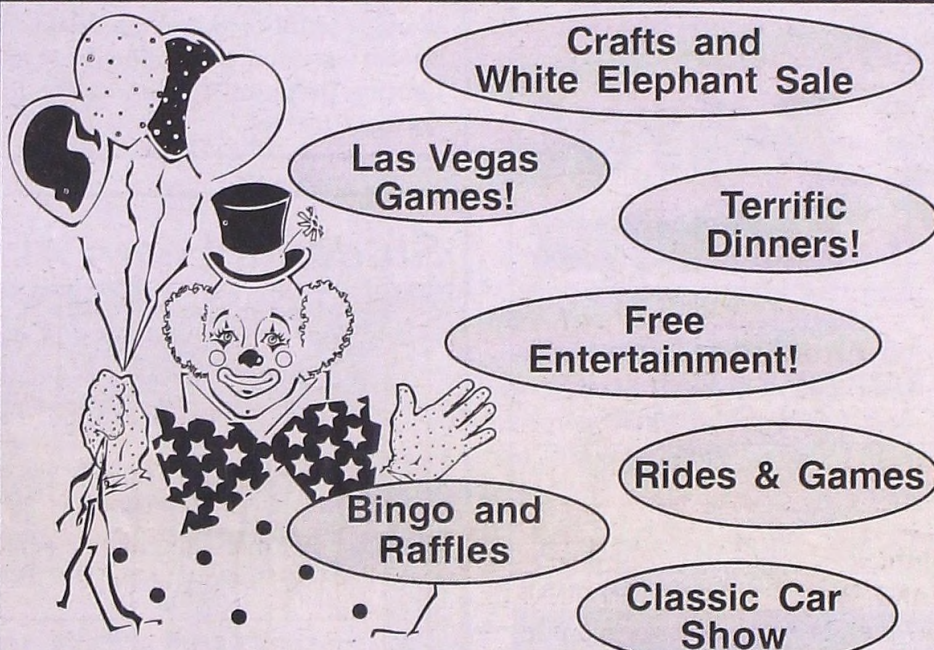
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PAN FRANEK	Saturday – 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
CHANNEL 6	Saturday – 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
DUANE MALINOWSKI	Sunday – 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
MISTY BLUES	Sunday – 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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Proceeds to  
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## St. Al's Festival Focuses on Family Fun

continued from page 1

## Games/Arcade

Because the St. Aloysius Festival is meant to be a special event enjoyed by the entire community, those who put together the "games and arcade" section of the festival try their best to offer a mixture of attractions for wide appeal. Both the young and the young-at-heart will enjoy "checking out" this year's old favorites and new challenges.

## Entertainment

Music will again be the backbone of the free entertainment at the St. Aloysius Festival. Come out to listen and/or dance to the music of Ed Zelenak (Friday from 7 to 11 p.m.), Pan Franek (Saturday from 2 to 6 p.m.), Channel 6 (Saturday from 7 to 11 p.m.), Duane Malinowski (Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.), and Misty Blues (Sunday from 5 to 9 p.m.).

Other attractions will include a Classic Car Show (Saturday from 1 to 6 p.m.), Magic by Jason Hudy (Saturday from 3 to 5 p.m.), and a performance by the Northern Stars Dance Group (Sunday from 4 to 5 p.m.).

## Crafts/White Elephant Sale

Twenty eight-foot tables will be covered with everything from Christmas gifts to baked goods. It's a great way to get a jump on your holiday shopping!

(Note: Crafter space is still available. For more information, call the St. Aloysius Rectory at 734-941-5056.)

## Food ...

Of course, there will be plenty of delicious food! Visit the Dining Room on Friday between 5 and 8 p.m. for a Fish Fry and on Saturday from 3 to 7 p.m. for a Steak Fry Feast, then come back on Sunday between noon and 5 p.m. for an old-fashioned Chicken Dinner with all the trimmings.

Tickets for the Fish Fry and Chicken Dinner are \$7 for adults/\$4 for children; Steak Fry tickets are \$8 for all.

For more "traditional" carnival fare, stop by Hamburger Villa for hamburgers, hot dogs, kielbasa, pizza, chips, coffee, pop, and other refreshments.

## ... and Drink

This year's Spirit Tent will serve chips, pretzels, pop, and nonalcoholic "beer" in addition to wine, wine coolers, and beer by the pitcher and the cup.

Of course, you must be at least 21 years old to purchase alcohol.

## Don't Forget To Say "Thanks"

The repeated success of the St. Aloysius Festival is the result of a lot of hard work performed by many dedicated people. So, while you're enjoying yourself, take some time to thank the many volunteers who make the fun happen, especially Father Festus Ejimadu, Festival Chairperson Cathy Freitag, Co-chairperson Nancy Farmer, and the various activities chairpersons:

- Kris Moe (Finance);
- Madeline Arkuski (Advertising);
- Boy Scouts Pack #872 (Parking);
- Dunk Tank (St. Aloysius Youth Group);
- Dave Coomer (Las Vegas Games);
- Joe Ozog (Bingo!);
- Rose Jasso (Games/Arcade);
- George Mennie (Car Show);
- Diane Zaleski (Crafts);
- Georgeann Taylor (White Elephant);
- Mary Confer (Fish Fry);
- Randy and Joanne Prater (Steak Fry);
- Ron and Gloria Ferrebee (Chicken Dinner);
- Denise Kovacs, Candy Lewkowicz, and Karen Wilhide (Dining Room);
- Steve Kertesz (Hamburger Villa); and
- Tim and Cindy Rhoton (Spirit Tent).

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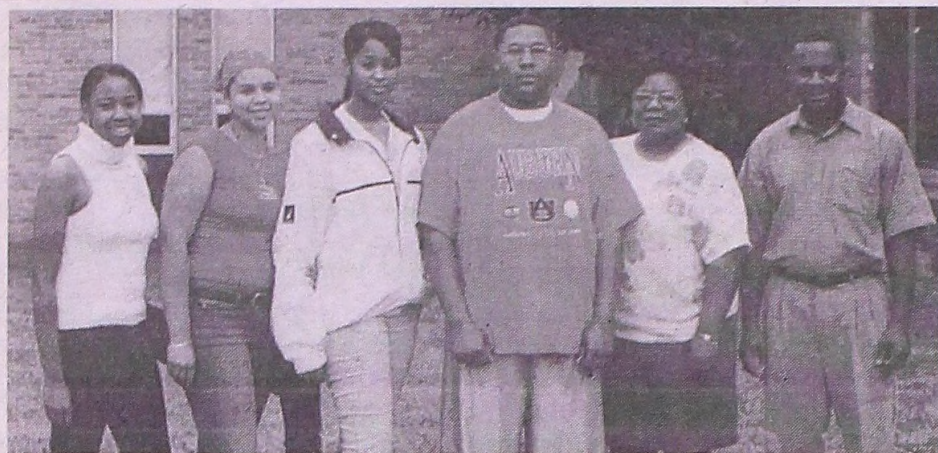
- macaroni and cheese • boxed potatoes, pasta, and rice •
- peanut butter and jelly • canned goods of all kinds •

CASH DONATIONS ARE ESPECIALLY WELCOME!

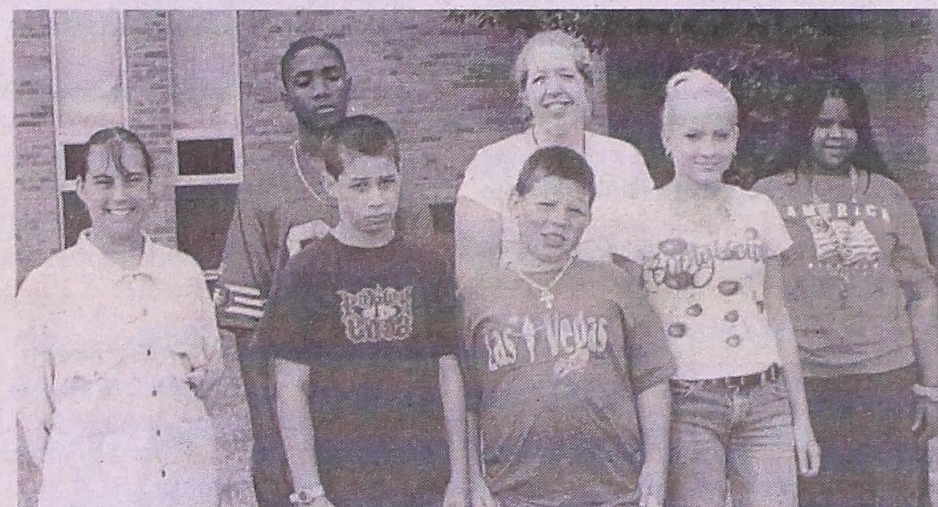
Contributions may be dropped off on:

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday • 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Summer School



Romulus High School students like (from left) Karron Smith, Karrah Duncan, Nichole Miller, and Maurice Webb (pictured with Summer High School Principal Winifred Wafer and math teacher Agape Nkwocha) took classes in algebra and geometry this summer to open up additional elective opportunities for the regular school year.



Romulus Middle School students got a chance to improve their skills in English, math, social studies, and science under the supervision of Summer Middle School Principal Rebecca Merithew (back, center). Among those who took part in the program were (from left): front row – Jenita Petty, Michael Hardway, Chris Bosel, and Alice Mattson; back row – Eric Bullard and Bianca Brown.



For the elementary program – held at Cory – Summer School Principal Jason Salhaney developed an extensive reading program that had two teachers working with each group of 20 students. The children read books, wrote articles about them, and then posted the articles on bulletin boards so that other classes could read about their discoveries. Among the participants taught by Jeff Leucht (far left) were (from left): front row – Joshua Radford, Deondre Fields, Markis Darden, Charley Bishop, and Keith Burrell; back row – Tiffany Hollis, Sean Love, and Marquis McCain.

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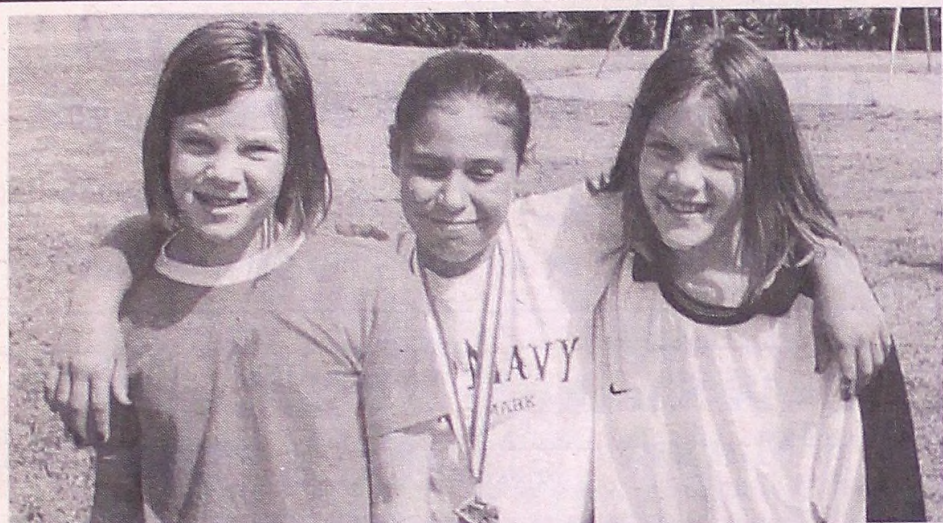
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# Summer School's End



(From left) Alysha Rec, Tiffany Hollis, and Audra Rec – all from Halecreek Elementary School – had a good time at the Elementary Summer School "Last Day Celebration," which featured a variety of enjoyable activities.



Elementary Summer School teachers (from left) Dawn Sims, Staci Alguire, Tavia Redmond, Markara Williams, Julie Fontaine, and Kristen Fuss were proud to announce that most students raised their DRA reading score.



(Back, from left) Cory Co-Parent Coordinator Janice Barden, teacher Staci Alguire, Summer School Principal Jason Salhaney, and Superintendent of Schools Joel R. Carr enjoyed ice cream with students.



Other Last Day Celebration guests included: (from left): front row – Cory Flagg, Ajian Love, Courtney Flagg, and Anthony Torres; back row – Tevin Love, Ivan Love, Julian Torres, and Sean Love.



Teachers Kendra Akers and Staci Alguire (back, left and right) took time out from the Last Day Celebration's many activities to pose for a picture.

## CHS/Adult Education Proud of New Grads



Dignitaries attending the commencement included (from left) Larry Tabor, Superintendent of Belleville Schools; Debbie Dick, then-President, Romulus Board of Education (RBE); Martha Toth, Trustee, Van Buren Board of Education (VBBE); Cheryle Buckley, then-Treasurer, RBE; Robert Binert, President, VBBE; State Representative Raymond E. Basham; Billy McCraight, then-Vice-president, RBE; Betty Lenossi, then-Secretary, RBE; Ken Berlinn, then-Trustee, RBE/Trustee, WCRESA Board of Education; and Joel R. Carr, Superintendent of Romulus Community Schools.

The Romulus/Belleville Community High School and Adult Education commencement ceremony was again a very inspiring event. The auditorium at Romulus High School was packed with enthusiastic supporters who cheered on the 53 Community High graduates, the 149 General Education Diploma recipients, and the 54 adults who earned their high-school diplomas.

Various dignitaries were on hand to help lead the graduation processional. Bill Musham, Director of Adult and Community Education; Sharman Spieser, Adult Education Director; and Al Wilkerson, Community High Principal, led the recognition of students. They were assisted by Robert Binert, President of the Van Buren Board of Education, and Debbie Dick, then-President of the Romulus Board of Education, who gave the students their diplomas.

State Representative Raymond E. Basham greeted the students and challenged them to become fully involved in the democratic process by registering to vote, voting, and becoming involved in community affairs.

Ellen Bragg, receptionist at the Romulus Community Schools administrative building, sang a thoughtful version of "Never Give Up" that held the audience and program participants spellbound.

Students were offered photo opportunities after the ceremony and were invited to attend a gala reception in the High School cafeteria. The RHS Jazz Band, under the direction of Henry James, provided entertainment at the reception, and the award-winning RHS Symphonic Band, also directed by James, welcomed guests and provided the processional and recessional selections for the ceremony. □



Community High School graduates proudly posed with staff members at their commencement ceremony. (From left) front row – Kenneth Greenwood, Jessica Aymer, Mike Bruckner, Faith Forbush (Stanford Prep teacher), Demaki Abdullah, Jennifer Rodriguez, Tim Hilvers, Sarah Slone, Jennifer Karawan, Robin Bell, Deshantay Manuel, Channon Washington (history/government teacher), and Susan White (English teacher); back row – Mark Robinson (lifetime-sports teacher), Kyshun Watkins, Charles Tenbroeck (science teacher), Matt Kapala (social-studies teacher), Gayson Gray, Christina Hendrickson, and Paul Brown.



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**Thursday** - Cod Dinner:  
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**Friday** - Wing Ding Dinner:  
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## Community Calendar

- **"Celebrating Grandparents" Festival** - REACH/Meridian Collective and the Senior Alliance are inviting the public to take part in their "Celebrating Grandparents" Festival at the Romulus Housing Commission Family Resource Center on Saturday, August 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will feature valuable information and resources, as well as food, rides, music, clowns, face-painting, and other entertainments.
- **Native American Heritage Day** - The Wayne County Department of Parks and Recreation invites you to attend Native American Heritage Day, a special celebration of the Native American culture in our area. The free event (except for the sale of craft items) will be held at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center (Westland) on Saturday, August 10, from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Parks Office at 734-261-1990.
- **Free Rose-growing Seminars** - Great Lakes Roses (located at 49875 Willow Road between Rawsonville and Sumpter/Belleville roads in Sumpter Township) invites the public to attend the following workshops: **Success with Climbing Roses** (Saturday, August 17, 1 p.m.) and **Winter-hardy Roses for Michigan** (Saturday, August 24, 1 p.m.). Participants are urged to dress for the weather! No reservation is necessary. Visit the Great Lakes Roses Web site ([www.GreatLakesRoses.com](http://www.GreatLakesRoses.com)) or call 734-461-1230.
- **Kentuckians' 42nd Annual Picnic** - The Kentuckians of Michigan will host their 42nd Annual Picnic from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday, August 11, at Liberty Park (located at 28391 Bredow Road in Romulus). This down-home-style event will feature a buffet breakfast (including biscuits and gravy), a buffet dinner (featuring beans and corn bread), raffles, a variety of contests (oldest/King Father, oldest/Queen Mother, longest marriage, newest marriage, youngest baby, etc.), and live music throughout the day. Among the scheduled performers are Larry Webster & the Mule Band (from Pikeville, KY), Bobby Hutch & Grand Ole Country, Nitro Hill, Butch Pilgrim & Friends, and Eddie Adkins & the Southerners. Other special guests will include Channel 50 reporter Mike Bowersock and WSDS-AM radio personality Keith Jason. Cost of admission is \$6 per person, plus an extra \$10 for RVs.
- **"African American Experience" Book Discussion Group** - The African American Experience Book Discussion Group meets at 6:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month (next meeting: August 15) at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road, next to City Hall). New members are welcome. For information about the club or its reading list, call Alfaye Woods or Diane Hazen at the Library (734-942-7589) during regular summer hours (Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 12 to 5 p.m.).
- **GCHS 40-year Reunion** - Garden City High School's Class of 1962 will hold a 40-year-reunion dinner/dance at the Immaculate Conception Knights of Columbus Hall (Garden City) on October 12, 2002, at 6:30 p.m. The deadline for reservations is August 30. For more information, call Peggy (Sinclair) Burklow at 734-425-9826.
- **Chamber Golf Outing** - The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce will host its annual golf-outing/fund-raiser at the Woodlands of Van Buren on Thursday, August 22. The event will begin at 7:30 a.m. with registration, a continental breakfast, and (for those who want it) time on the practice range, followed by an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start for the event itself. A banquet, with awards and prizes, will follow at 2:30 p.m. Cost per foursome is \$480. To register, call 734-326-4290.
- **Saturday in the Park** - Wayne County's "Saturday in the Park" program - which will continue from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each Saturday through September 28 - features the weekly closing of six miles of Hines Park's Hines Drive (from the Warrendale picnic area west of Outer Drive to the Nankin Mills area east of Ann Arbor Trail) to allow people of all ages to run, walk, skate, and cycle safely. For more information, call 734-261-1990.
- **Nursery Has Openings** - Huron Countryside Cooperative Nursery, located in New Boston, has openings available for three- and four-year-old children. For more information, call 734-753-5978.
- **Open Registration at Romulus Head Start** - Romulus Head Start is now enrolling three- and four-year-old children for its free preschool program. For eligibility information, call 734-532-1900.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar,  
mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038;  
FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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# Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, and Melissa Morton, Manager of the Romulus Tower, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 734-942-6852.)

## Fun Fest 2002

The Romulus Senior Center and Romulus Tower apartments will be hosting Fun Fest 2002 on Friday, August 16. The all-day event will feature a variety of musical entertainment, a clown, card games, a dunk tank, a K-9 Officer presentation, a baking contest, Legal Aid, a mini health screening, corporate messages, door prizes, food, and *plenty of good fun!*

Everyone is welcome.

## Bishop Park Picnic

Enjoy a leisurely lunch in the shade, watching the ships go by, when the Romulus Senior Center travels to Bishop Park in Wyandotte for an old-fashioned picnic on Tuesday, August 20. (In case of rain, the event will be rescheduled.) A cost of \$5 per person covers transportation and lunch.

Sign up at the Center.

## Senior Day at the State Fair

Join other Romulus seniors on Monday, August 26, to attend the Michigan State Fair's Senior Day program, which will feature live entertainment, exhibits, contests (oldest man/woman, most grandchildren, baldest head/prettiest hat, etc.), and free refreshments. Cost is \$1.50 for seniors (for transportation); \$10.50 for nonseniors (for transportation plus gate admission).

Sign up at the Center.

## Detroit Zoo

The Romulus Senior Center is planning a trip to the Detroit Zoo on Friday, August 30, beginning at 9 a.m. A cost of \$9 for seniors 62 and over (\$11 for all others) covers transportation, parking, and admission. (Extras such as food and riding the railroad are not included.)

Sign up now if you would like to take part in this trip.

## New York, New York

The Center is inviting local seniors to attend a performance of *New York, New York* at the Novi Theater on Thursday, September 12. A cost of \$20 includes transportation (departing from the Center at 10 a.m.), a nice lunch, and admission to the show.

Seats are limited, so early sign-up is strongly recommended.

## Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman.

- **Cruise on Kent Lake** (August 27; \$41);
- **Shipsheewanna** (September 3; \$49);
- **"My Fair Lady"** (October 29; \$89);
- **Point Edward Casino** (November 7; \$15);
- **MGM** (November 14; \$15); and
- **Las Vegas** (November 18-22; \$579).

## Bocce Ball

A few spaces remain for seniors interested in playing bocce ball on Mondays at 8:30 a.m. in the Senior Center's Senior Park. Call for more information.

## Fall Bowling Meeting

Anyone interested in joining the Senior Bowling League should attend a meeting to be held at the Center at 9:30 a.m. on September 3. New faces are welcome.

## Walking Club Update

Congratulations to the following Senior Walking Club members on reaching some impressive milestones:

- Paul Dorman (25 miles),
- Sylvia Dubisky (25 miles),
- Mildred Qualls (25 miles),
- Alice Gilbert (5 miles),
- Sharon Gurner (5 miles),
- Bridget Holt (5 miles), and
- Vi Willoughby (5 miles).

## Corporate Massage

Just a reminder that Laura Singleton is back at the Center, certification in hand, to perform "corporate massages" each Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Appointments are required.

## Haircuts

The Romulus Senior Center's next haircut date is set for Monday, August 26, beginning at 9 a.m. If you would like to take advantage of this affordable (\$5) program, call the Center to make an appointment.

Note: Haircut clients are asked to wash their hair before coming to their appointment, as the Center does not have the necessary facilities.

## Ask the Attorney

Local attorney Steve Robinson's monthly "Ask the Attorney" program—a free consultation service for Romulus senior citizens—has been scheduled for 3 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13, at the Center. Walk-ins (36515 Bibbins) and call-ins (734-942-6852) welcome. □



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# Obituaries

## Pearl Ann Bower

Pearl Ann Bower – a native and resident of Belleville, Michigan – died on Tuesday, August 6, 2002.

The 87-year-old Pearl was born on September 27, 1914.

Among those surviving her are one son, Willard M. "Bill" (Peggy) Bower (Bellville); two daughters, Mrs. Richard (Marge) Frankowski (Big Sandy, TN) and Mrs. Clifford (Joan) Schurich (Little York, OH); a brother, Melvin Eves; and nine grandchildren.

Pearl's husband, Willard Bower, Sr., predeceased her in 1991. Others preceding her in death were her sister, Airabell, and six brothers, David, Earl, Kenneth, Ike, Durwood, and Paul Eves.

A funeral service was held on Friday, August 9, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with the Reverend William Kren (Community United Methodist Church, Romulus) officiating.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

## Randall Wayne Dixon, Jr.

Randall Wayne Dixon, Jr., of Flat Rock, Michigan, died on Thursday, August 1, 2002, at the age of 26.

Randy, an avid hunter, was born in Trenton, Michigan, on May 15, 1976.

Among those surviving him are his wife, Christine (Billadeau) Dixon; his father, Randall W. (Laura) Dixon, Sr.; his mother, Donna (Mounts) Zeleniakas; two stepchildren, Russell and Jennifer Straw-

sine; his grandparents, William (Doris) Dixon and Guy (Mary) Mounts; a sister, Ann (Todd) Johnson; a niece, Samantha Johnson; and a nephew, Toddy Johnson.

A funeral service was held on Monday, August 5, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Pastor John Goodman officiating.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

## Congratulations!

### Sara Hurt: Miss Romulus Junior Teen

The Miss Junior America selection committee has chosen Sara Kaye Hurt, age fourteen, of Romulus, as Miss Romulus Junior Teen for 2002-2003. Contestants' names are submitted by teachers, dance teachers, or community leaders.

State Finals will be in February at the Novi Hilton.

Sara is a freshman at Romulus High School this year. She plans to go on to college and a career as a corporate lawyer. One of her goals is to be valedictorian when she graduates.

A dancer since she was six, Sara has competed at the national level since she was seven years old.

She is a member of the senior competition group at Shearrer's Arts 'n Motion in Romulus. Along with the group dances – which range among ballet, jazz, lyrical, tap, and acrodance styles – she also competes with at least two solos a year. Her primary dance styles are ballet, jazz, and lyrical. She is beginning pointe classes this summer as a way to expand her talents.

This summer – at national competition in Atlantic City, New Jersey – Sara achieved silver medals for her two solos, along with silver medals for the group dances.

"I love dance," she says. "It's been a great way to express myself, and I really enjoy dancing with the group at the studio. Nationals are great – being able to travel and have fun with my friends!"

Sara also loves movies, music, singing, being on the computer, and



Sara Hurt

spending time with her friends. She discovered a talent for debate while she was at Romulus Middle School, and French is one of her favorite classes. She plans to continue with her French classes and wants to travel to Paris her senior year.

Sara lives in Romulus with her mother, Susan Hurt; her two brothers, Matt and David Brushinski; and her dog, Mutt. The family is very proud of her accomplishments to date, and expects that Sara will fulfill her dreams and goals.

"She's a smart, confident, and talented girl. She'll go as far as she wants in her life and we'll be right there to support her goals," her mother says.

"We're all very proud of her!"

Sara will reign as City Queen for the next year and participate in local parades and activities. □

## James Marcus Hester, Sr.

James Marcus Hester, Sr., of Romulus, Michigan, died on Wednesday, July 31, 2002. He was 85 years old.

James – born in Social Circle, Georgia, on November 27, 1916 – grew up on a Georgia plantation. He married Mattie E. Cox in 1937. After serving his country in the U.S. Air Force, James moved his family to Michigan and settled in Romulus. He accepted Christ at an early age and became a deacon at First Baptist Church of Romulus.

Surviving James are his wife; two sons, Horace and Willie Hester; six

daughters, Barbara Jamison, Marsha Saafir, Deborah Hester, Roberta Hester, Sherry Hester, and Lavonne Sledd; two brothers-in-law; three sisters-in-law; and a host of grandchildren, other relatives, and friends.

A funeral service was held on Monday, August 5, at First Baptist Church, with the Reverend Charles Woolridge officiating.

Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

## Louise R. Pratt

Louise R. Pratt of Romulus, Michigan, died on Tuesday, August 6, 2002, at the age of 68.

Born in Montell, Maryland, on April 17, 1934, the VFW Auxiliary (Post #9568) member was employed at Uptown Hair Fashions from 1976 to 1995.

Louise is survived by her husband, Michael Pratt, Jr.; three sons, Craig W. (Westland, MI), Bradley G. (Lincoln Park, MI), and Brian C. Phillips (Romulus); two daughters, Mrs. Tammy (Jim) Cantrell (Romulus) and Mrs. Deborah L. (Robert) Watts (Romulus); one brother, Gerald

Phillips (Cresaptown, MD); one sister, Mrs. Peg Michaels (Cumberland, MD); eleven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Among those predeceasing her were her brother Gilbert and her sister Judith Ann.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 10, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with the Reverend Michael Holton (Ball Road Tabernacle, Romulus) officiating.

Burial will be at Romulus Memorial Cemetery.

## Margaret May Szalka

Margaret May Szalka of Waterville, Michigan – formerly of Lincoln Park, Michigan – died on Wednesday, July 31, 2002. She was 79 years old.

Margaret was born in River Rouge, Michigan, on May 8, 1923. Her faith was a very important part of her life. She gave faithfully and supported many religious organizations.

Among those surviving Margaret are her husband, William L. Szalka, Sr.; a daughter, Karen (Herman) Johnson; two sisters, Helen (Jack) Farrow and

Ada (Lester) Ball; ten grandchildren; and sixteen great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her parents; two sons, William Jr. and James Szalka; and three brothers, Mick, Steve, and Skip Lauria.

A funeral mass was held on Tuesday, August 6, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church (Wyandotte, MI), with Father Walter J. Ptak officiating.

Cremation and other arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI). □

# Business Directory

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